

## BAPTIZING - NOT A CHILDISH MATTER

*By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.*

The following article came to me recently and I contended that I should pass it on. It has been slightly edited and a conclusion added.

After a hardy rainstorm filled all the potholes in the streets and alleys, a young mother watched her two little boys playing in the puddle through her kitchen window. The older of the two, a five year old lad, grabbed his sibling by the back of his head and shoved his face into the water hole. As the boy recovered and stood laughing and dripping, the mother ran to the yard in a panic.

"Why on earth did you do that to your little brother?" she says as she was about to discipline the older boy in anger. "We were just playing 'church' mommy" he said. "I was baptizing him in the name of the Father, the Son and in the hole-he-goes."

The above story makes my recall "kick-in" as to when our daughter was about three years old and she was caught dipping our doggy in the commode. When she was asked what she was doing she replied that she was baptizing the doggie.

It is a very serious matter for a person to be baptized just as going through the marriage ceremony. It is to be taken in a very sacred manner. When one is immersed in water he/she is admitting that they have been wrong and now as an accepter of Jesus as Savior and Lord one is being united with Him. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life and no one comes to the Father except through Him." (John 14:6)

**Plainly, don't get short changed.** Let's be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible (in Acts) teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

- 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31) 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30)
- 3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37) 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38)
- 5) Live A Christian Life (14:22) 6) Be Active In the Church (2:47)

***KYOWVA Evangelistic Association \* 1541 S. 7th Street \* Ironton, OH 45638***

***Web Page: [www.kyowva.com](http://www.kyowva.com) \* Free Bible Course Upon Request***

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